

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD (MIDNIGHT MASS)

Entrance Antiphon:

The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.

ENTRANCE HYMNS

1. Come on and celebrate
His gift of love, we will celebrate
The Son of God who loved us
And gave us life.

We'll shout your praise, O King
You give us joy nothing else can bring
We'll give to you our offering
In celebration praise.

*Come on and celebrate, celebrate
Celebrate and sing
Celebrate and sing to the king*

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1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (x2)
 2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your gladsome strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?
 3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
 4. See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise



GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
A Son is given to us.

9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.
For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.
For all the footgear of battle,
every cloak rolled in blood,
is burnt
and consumed by fire.
For there is a child born for us,
a son given to us
and dominion is laid on his shoulders;
and this is the name they give him:
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.
Wide is his dominion
in a peace that has no end,
for the throne of David
and for his royal power,
which he establishes and makes secure
in justice and integrity.
From this time onwards and for ever,
the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 95:1-3. 11-13. R] Lk 2:11

**R. Today a saviour has been born to us;
he is Christ the Lord.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R.)
2. Proclaim his help day by day,
tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,
let the land and all it bears rejoice,
all the trees of the wood shout for joy
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,
he comes to rule the earth. (R.)
4. With justice he will rule the world,
he will judge the peoples with his truth. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to Titus 2:11-14
God's grace has been revealed to the whole human race.

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

The word of the Lord.

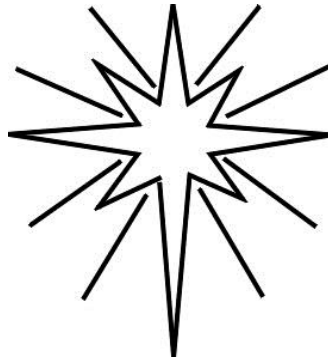
CHRISTMAS CAROLS

3. Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light!
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

1. Hark, the herald angels sing,
glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

*Hark, the herald angels sing,
Glory to the new-born King.*

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored:
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb!
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see,
Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!



1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
come and behold him, born the king of angels:
*O come, let us adore him, (x3)
Christ the Lord.*

2. Adeste fideles, Laeti triumphantes;
Venite, venite in Bethlehem;
Natum videte, Regem Angelorum:
*Venite adoremus, (x3)
Dominum!*

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Joy to the world, the Lord has come.
Let earth receive her king.
Let every heart prepare Him room.
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love.

I. MARY'S BOY CHILD

1. Long time ago in Bethlehem
So the Holy Bible say,
Mary's boy child Jesus Christ
Was born on Christmas Day.

*Hark, now hear the angels sing
A new king's born today
And man will live for ever more
because of Christmas Day.
Trumpets sound and angels sing
Listen to what they say
That man will live for ever more
because of Christmas Day*

2. While shepherds watched their flocks by night
They see a bright new shining star
They hear a choir of angels sing
Music seemed to come from afar.

II. O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.
2. O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth;
for Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
- but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still,
the dear Christ enters in.

III. ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

1. Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a Mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.
2. He came down to earth from heaven,
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.
3. And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honour and obey,
love, and watch the lowly maiden
in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children, all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.

IV. ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

1. Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains;
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis deo (x2)
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your rapturous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song.
3. Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the new-born king.

V. WE THREE KINGS

1. We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar;
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

*O Star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

2. Born a King on Bethlehem plain,
gold I bring, to crown him again,
King for ever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.



3. Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,
His power and glory evermore proclaim. (x2)

X. THE FIRST NOWELL

1. The First Noel the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they
lay a-keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel (x4) Born is the King of Israel!

2. They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
3. And by the light of that same star,
three wise men came from country far.
To seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.

XI. LISTEN TO THE STORY

1. Listen to the story that we love to tell
Story of the Holy One
Tell you of the Saviour who we love so well
Story of the Father's Son.

*Born as the baby in the midnight
Bringing us eternal day
Came like the dawning of the sunlight
Came to take our sins away (x2)*

2. Though they wouldn't let him in the inn that night
You can let him in your heart
Wise men came to see him wearing silken robes
You can some just as you are.
3. Angels told the story of a dying world
Listen as we sing it to you
Like the shepherd looking for a living Lord
Seek and you will find him too.

XII. GREAT DAY IN BETHLEHEM

*Great day in Bethlehem (x3)
In a stable at the back of the Inn.*

1. The greatest story ever told
Was told on Christmas Day
Of two who came to Bethlehem
They'd come a long long way
Weary, tired, dusty and worn
They knocked at every inn,
There was a baby to be born,
A new life to begin. And it's a...
2. Late that night, a Son was born
A Son who was to be
The Way for men to find the Truth
A light for them to see
Angels cried 'O Glory be'
Hosanna let us sing
Peace on earth, goodwill to men
Today is born a King. And it's a....

XIII. GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere,
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born*

1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er wandering flocks by night,
behold from out of heaven
there shone a holy light
2. And lo, when they had seen it,
they all bowed down and prayed;
they travelled on together
to where the Babe was laid.
3. When I was a seeker,
I sought both night and day;
I asked my Lord to help me
and he showed me the way

VI. WHAT CHILD IS THIS

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Come greet the infant Lord
The babe, the son of Mary.
2. Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you:
Hail, hail the Word made flesh
The babe, the son of Mary.

VII. WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the Angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.
2. "Fear not!" said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind.
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind.
3. "To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,
and this shall be the sign:

VIII. IT CAME UPON MIDNIGHT CLEAR

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men
From heaven's all gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.
2. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

IX. O HOLY NIGHT

1. Oh holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
Oh night divine, Oh night when Christ was born;
Oh night divine, Oh night, Oh night Divine.
2. Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient lands.
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend.
He knows our need, He guardeth us from danger,
Behold your King! Before the lowly bend. (x2)